

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

JOHNNY DUNNY,

Plaintiff

v.

CORE CIVIC, *et al.*,

Defendants

Case No. 2:20-cv-01252-KJD-DJA

ORDER

I. DISCUSSION

On July 9, 2020, this Court directed Plaintiff to file a fully complete application to proceed *in forma pauperis*, with complete financial attachments, including both a financial certificate and an inmate account statement for the dates Plaintiff has been present at the facility, no later than September 7, 2020. (ECF No. 3).

On July 15, 2020, Plaintiff filed a memorandum in opposition to the Court's July 9, 2020 order indicating he has not been able to obtain an inmate account statement for the dates he has been present at the facility due to the institution's refusal of the request. (ECF No. 4).

Under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(2) and Local Rule LSR 1-2, an inmate seeking to begin a civil action in this Court may apply to proceed *in forma pauperis* in order to file the civil action without prepaying the full \$400 filing fee. To apply for *in forma pauperis* status, the inmate must submit all three the following documents to the Court:

- (1) a completed **Application to Proceed in Forma Pauperis for Inmate**, this Court's approved form (i.e. pages 1 through 3 with the inmate's two signatures on page 3),
- (2) a **Financial Certificate** properly signed by both the inmate and a prison or jail official (i.e. page 4 of this Court's approved form), and
- (3) a copy of the **inmate's prison or jail trust fund account statement for the**

1 **previous six-month period**. If Plaintiff has not been at the facility a full six-month period,
2 Plaintiff must still submit an inmate account statement for the dates he has been present
3 at the facility.

4 To date, Plaintiff has not filed any inmate account statement in this case. As
5 previously stated, if Plaintiff has not been at the facility a full six-month period, Plaintiff
6 must still submit an inmate account statement for the dates he has been present at the
7 facility. The Court is aware that officials at Nevada Southern Detention Center are
8 capable of producing an inmate account statement for inmates present at the facility less
9 than six months because the Court has received such statements.

10 It is important that Plaintiff understand that a financial certificate and an inmate
11 account statement are not the same thing. Documentation concerning a financial
12 certificate is not documentation about an inmate account statement. If Plaintiff has
13 difficulty obtaining both a financial certificate and an inmate account statement from
14 prison officials, Plaintiff shall file an affidavit in this case detailing when he requested both
15 documents, who he spoke to about the status of both documents, who he followed up
16 with after he did not receive both documents, and their responses. Therefore, any
17 affidavit provided by Plaintiff must document his efforts with regard to both a financial
18 certificate and an inmate account statement, not merely a financial certificate.

19 In other words, if Plaintiff is unable to acquire the necessary documents from prison
20 officials, after making efforts to do so following receipt of this order, he must provide the
21 Court with an affidavit that demonstrates that he has done all that he could to acquire
22 both a financial certificate and an inmate account statement by the Court's deadline.
23 Plaintiff's affidavit should include dates of his requests, dates of his follow-up requests,
24 names of the prison officials that he spoke to about the matter, and their responses. If
25 Plaintiff's affidavit demonstrates that he has done all that was possible to acquire both a
26 financial certificate and an inmate account statement, the Court will consider his
27 application to proceed *in forma pauperis* complete.¹

28 ¹ Plaintiff must still submit the first three pages of the application to proceed *in*

1 Plaintiff should **not** file multiple letters or objections regarding these requirements
2 as this imposes an unnecessary administrative burden on the Court and delays the ability
3 of the Court to address substantive issues in cases. Plaintiff should simply file one
4 affidavit.

5 The Court will grant Plaintiff **one final extension** until on or before **September 21,**
6 **2020**, to file either a fully complete application to proceed *in forma pauperis* containing all
7 three of the required documents or, alternatively, the first three pages of the application
8 to proceed *in forma pauperis* and an affidavit detailing the efforts he took to acquire **both**
9 a financial certificate and an inmate account statement from prison officials. Absent
10 unusual circumstances, the Court will not grant any further extensions of time. If Plaintiff
11 is unable to file either a fully complete application to proceed *in forma pauperis* with all
12 three required documents or, alternatively, the first three pages of the application to
13 proceed *in forma pauperis* and an affidavit detailing the efforts he took to acquire **both** a
14 financial certificate and an inmate account statement from prison officials on or before
15 **September 21, 2020**, the Court will dismiss this case **without prejudice** for Plaintiff to file
16 a new case with the Court when Plaintiff is able to either acquire all three of the documents
17 needed to file a fully complete application to proceed *in forma pauperis* or, alternatively,
18 the first three pages of the application to proceed *in forma pauperis* and an affidavit
19 detailing the efforts he took to acquire **both** a financial certificate and an inmate account
20 statement from prison officials.

21 A dismissal **without prejudice** means Plaintiff does not give up the right to refile the
22 case with the Court, under a new case number, when Plaintiff has either all three
23 documents needed to submit with the application to proceed *in forma pauperis* or,
24 alternatively, the first three pages of the application to proceed *in forma pauperis* and an
25 affidavit detailing the efforts he took to acquire **both** a financial certificate and an inmate
26 account statement from prison officials. Plaintiff may also choose not to file an application
27 *in forma pauperis* on this Court's approved form with his affidavit. If Plaintiff does not submit
28 the first three pages of the application to proceed *in forma pauperis* with the affidavit, the
Court will dismiss the case without prejudice for Plaintiff to open a new case when he is
able to acquire the required documents.

1 to proceed *in forma pauperis* and instead pay the full filing fee of \$400 on or before
2 **September 21, 2020** to proceed with this case.

3 The Court will retain Plaintiff's civil rights complaint (ECF No. 1-1), but the Court
4 will not file the complaint unless and until Plaintiff timely files either a fully complete
5 application to proceed *in forma pauperis* with all three documents, or, alternatively, the
6 first three pages of the application to proceed *in forma pauperis* and an affidavit detailing
7 the efforts he took to acquire both a financial certificate and an inmate account statement
8 from prison officials, or pays the full \$400 filing fee.

9 **II. CONCLUSION**

10 For the foregoing reasons, IT IS ORDERED that the Clerk of the Court will send
11 Plaintiff the approved form application to proceed *in forma pauperis* by an inmate, as well
12 as the document entitled information and instructions for filing an *in forma pauperis*
13 application.

14 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that on or before **September 21, 2020**, Plaintiff will
15 either pay the full \$400 filing fee for a civil action (which includes the \$350 filing fee and
16 the \$50 administrative fee) or file with the Court:

17 (1) a completed **Application to Proceed in Forma Pauperis for Inmate** on this
18 Court's approved form (i.e. pages 1 through 3 of the form with the inmate's two
19 signatures on page 3),

20 (2) a **Financial Certificate** properly signed by both the inmate and a prison or jail
21 official (i.e. page 4 of this Court's approved form), and

22 (3) a copy of the **inmate's prison or jail trust fund account statement for the**
23 **previous six-month period**. If Plaintiff has not been at the facility a full six-month period,
24 Plaintiff must still submit an inmate account statement for the dates he has been present
25 at the facility.

26 Alternatively, Plaintiff will file with the Court the first three pages of the application
27 to proceed *in forma pauperis* and an affidavit detailing the efforts he took to acquire both
28 a financial certificate and an inmate account statement from prison officials.

1 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, if Plaintiff does not file a fully complete
2 application to proceed *in forma pauperis* with all three documents or, alternatively, the
3 first three pages of the application to proceed *in forma pauperis* and an affidavit detailing
4 the efforts he took to acquire both a financial certificate and an inmate account statement
5 from prison officials, or pay the full \$400 filing fee for a civil action on or before **September**
6 **21, 2020**, the Court will dismiss this action without prejudice for Plaintiff to refile the case
7 with the Court, under a new case number, when Plaintiff has all three documents needed
8 to file a complete application to proceed *in forma pauperis*.

9 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of the Court will retain the complaint
10 (ECF No.1-1) but will not file it at this time.

11 DATED: July 21, 2020.

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14 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE